

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, crime can touch the lives of anyone, regardless of age, gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, immigration, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, Washington has been at the forefront of victims' rights, including creating a Crime Victims Compensation Program in 1973, the ninth in the country, as part of the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries; establishing the first-in-the-nation Victim Services Program within the Washington State Department of Corrections in 1983, which promotes victim and community safety; and implementing the nation's first Address Confidentiality Program through the Washington Secretary of State's Office in 1991, which provides victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault an alternative, confidential mailing address; and

WHEREAS, Washington continues its efforts to aid crime victims – including an additional \$2.5 million in funding approved in 2022 for medical exams through the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries' Crime Victims' Compensation Program; and

WHEREAS, Washington's Office of Crime Victims Advocacy granted over \$50 million to Tribes, local governments, and community non-profits, which provided 350,000 hours of services and advocacy to over 50,000 people impacted by crime and violence; and

WHEREAS, we are incorporating our communities' experts and trusted resources, advocates, medical and mental health providers, and legal professionals to provide support to crime victims; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that all victims of crime are afforded their rights and receive a trauma-informed response;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 24-30, 2022, as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in the theme of this year's recognition, "Rights, access, and equity, for all victims," through enforcing victims' rights; expanding access to services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all.



Signed this 13th day of April, 2022


Governor Jay Inslee